

separate or distinct subject matter as required for restriction in 37 CFR 1.142. Moreover, there has already been an office action issued on the claims, including an art search, and a response filed July 11, 2005, which remains outstanding. In that office action, the same art was cited against the claims in both Group I and Group II as identified by the Examiner. Respectably, continued examination of the application would therefore not place a serious burden on the Examiner.

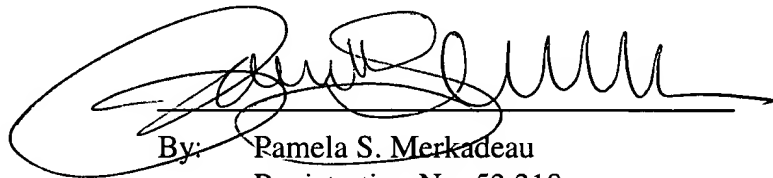
Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the restriction requirement. Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.143, Applicants provisionally elect the claims of Group II, with leave to withdraw claims 1-4 without prejudice if withdrawal of the restriction requirement is not granted.

Additional Remarks

This Response to Restriction Requirement is filed within 1 month of the mailing date of this Restriction Requirement. Therefore, applicants believe that no extension of time fee is currently due.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required by this Response to Restriction/Election including fees for added claims not otherwise already paid for including any additional unpaid extension of time fees, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. (50-1847).

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Pamela S. Merkadeau', is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized with loops and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

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